**Introduction and Acknowledgments**

This package of tools was developed by Dr. Diana Schwerha of Ohio University’s Russ College of Engineering and Technology’s Industrial and Systems Engineering Department. Dr. Schwerha was assisted by graduate research assistants Alyssa Boudinot and Nick Loree. This research was made possible by the support of the Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation and their continued dedication to protecting workers’ health and safety throughout their careers.

The first part of the research involved determining the current level of integration of safety with process improvement in manufacturing companies across the state of Ohio. The Ohio Manufacturers’ Associated graciously assisted us in distributing our survey to companies across the state. We would like to acknowledge their assistance on this important part of the research.

The next part of the research involved developing a set of Excel-based tools designed to help small and large companies alike in their endeavors to integrate both safety and ergonomics with process improvement. Over one dozen companies helped us to develop and test these tools. We are very appreciative of their time and effort in helping us develop and refine the tools.

The tools are designed to provide a framework for holistic process improvement that brings people, who may not normally interact and could be from different departments, together and working towards a common goal. It is the hope of both the Ohio BWC and the Ohio University team that companies can use these tools to improve their workplace to provide safe and productive work environments. You may access all of the training materials at <https://www.ohio.edu/engineering/safety-training/>. If you have any questions, please reach out to Dr. Schwerha at [schwerha@ohio.edu](mailto:schwerha@ohio.edu).